LOIS CAPPS
23RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

1110 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0522 (202) 225-3601

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

### Exhibit 3: Project Letters



## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

March 8, 2010

DISTRICT OFFICES:

1411 Marsh Street, Suite 205 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 (805) 546-8348

301 EAST CARRILLO STREET, SUITE A
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
(805) 730–1710

2675 NORTH VENTURA ROAD, SUITE 105 PORT HUENEME, CA 93041 (805) 985–6807

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Paradise Beach II ("Tognazzini") land acquisition project. Conservancy support for the project will provide the non-federal matching funds required to accept a \$1.2 million dollar grant to the Conservancy from NOAA's Coastal Estuarine and Land Conservation Program. The project is also supported by the Dunes Collaborative, a coalition that coordinates management of all the public lands within the reserve, as well as the larger Nipomo-Guadalupe Dunes Complex to the north.

Point Sal Reserve is an area of incomparable natural beauty and geological and ecological riches. Its rugged terrain and remote location adjacent to Vandenberg Air Force Base in northern Santa Barbara County has allowed the area's rare and fragile habitats to remain relatively undisturbed by development or human uses. The land, comprising the last remaining unprotected property identified in the 800-acre Point Sal Reserve Management Area, provides an exciting opportunity to complete the goals set out in the 1991 Point Sal Reserve Management Plan. Acquiring the property will result in the opening of two miles of the California Coastal Trail and will connect with publicly-owned land to the north that lies within the Nipomo-Guadalupe Dunes Complex, opening up passive recreation opportunities appropriate for the area.

I strongly encourage you to give full and fair consideration to the Paradise Beach II land acquisition project, pursuant to all rules and regulations. If you have any questions, please contact Jonathan Saur in my Santa Barbara district office at (805) 730-1710.

Sincerely,

LOIS CAPPS

Member of Congress

STATE CAPITOL SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 651-4015 (916) 445-8081 FAX Exhibit 3: Project Letters



# California State Senate

#### ABEL MALDONADO

FIFTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

March 5, 2010

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1300 Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed State Coastal Conservancy grant in the amount of \$1,136,000 to the County of Santa Barbara for planned acquisition of the 172-acre Tognazzini property. The property is located on Paradise Beach adjacent to the existing Point Sal Reserve Management Area, which is owned and operated by California State Parks, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and Santa Barbara County Parks Department.

The County's acquisition of the property, with the assistance of the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo, will serve to permanently protect the site's outstanding coastal dunes, wildlife habitat, and cultural resource values, including several state and federally listed plant and animal species, as well as documented marine mammal haul out area.

This acquisition project takes advantage of a rare opportunity to expand the Point Sal Reserve Management Area, protect a contiguous area of coastal dunes, and broaden the current visitor-serving and restoration programs being administered by the Dunes Collaborative, of which the County and Land Conservancy are partners. The County is well-positioned to carry out this project having undertaken numerous projects of a similar nature within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes area over the past 20 years.

The Point Sal area is truly one of the central coast's most remote, rugged and dramatic landscapes. Thank you for your consideration of this project at your April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Sincerely,

ABEL MALDONADO Senator, 15<sup>th</sup> District

STATE CAPITOL PO BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0033 (916) 319-2033 FAX (916) 319-2133

# Assembly California Legislature

DISTRICT OFFICE 1104 PALM STREET SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401 (805) 549-3381 FAX (505) 549-3400



SAM BLAKESLEE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

March 17, 2010

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1300 Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Paradise Beach II / Pt. Sal Land Acquisition Project

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express our support for, and urge your board to approve, the proposed State Coastal Conservancy grant to The County of Santa Barbara for their planned acquisition of the 172-acre Tognazzini Property located on Paradise Beach adjacent to the existing Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area, which is owned and operated by California State Parks, the Bureau of Land Management, and Santa Barbara County Parks. The acquisition of the property will serve to permanently protect the site's outstanding coastal dunes, wildlife habitat, and cultural resource values, including several state and federally listed plant and animal species, as well as a unique fresh water dune pond.

This acquisition project takes advantage of a rare opportunity to expand the Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area, protect a contiguous area of coastal dunes, and broaden the current visitor serving and restoration programs being administered by the Dunes Collaborative. This project has been spearheaded by The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County in partnership with the County, and we believe their team is well positioned to carry out this project having undertaken numerous projects of a similar nature within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes area over the past 20 years.

The Pt. Sal area is truly one of the central coast's most remote, rugged, and dramatic landscapes. We are in agreement that its conservation is well-warranted and offer our support for this acquisition. Thank you for your consideration of this project at your April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Sincerely,

Assemblymin, 33<sup>d</sup> District



February 11, 2010

Ms. Rachel Couch, Project Manager State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1300 Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: Letter of Support for Acquisition of the Tognazzini Property - Paradise Beach

Dear Ms. Couch:

The Dunes Collaborative is pleased to offer its support of the proposed acquisition of the Tognazzini Property on Paradise Beach, just north of Point Sal in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes. Our Land Acquisition Task Force has found this area to be one of the highest priorities for conservation efforts in the entire Dunes Complex, and we are excited by the possibility of further protecting the unique natural resources and the rugged, scenic beauty surrounding Point Sal.

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County, one of the Dunes Collaborative's member organizations, has stepped forward and taken a lead role in discussions with the landowners towards the end of a purchase for conservation purposes. We understand that the property would ultimately become a part of the Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area, and would be owned and managed by Santa Barbara County Parks. Accordingly, we would like to request that the State Coastal Conservancy consider the expenditure of funds in support of this once-in-a-lifetime conservation opportunity.

Thank you very much for your attention to our letter and for your commitment to the long-term protection and enhancement of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes. We are greatly appreciative of the relationship that we enjoy with the State Coastal Conservancy. Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or concerns whatsoever.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Hill

Co-Chair

**Dunes Collaborative** 

Rey Monge

Co-Chair

**Dunes Collaborative**